

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 to 4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended — Withdrawn) An isolated, purified or recombinant peptide encoded by the ~~nucleic acid of claim 1~~ polynucleotide of claim 20.

6 to 8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Amended — Withdrawn) An isolated, purified or recombinant antibody, specifically immunoreactive under immunologically reactive conditions, to the protein of claim 5.

10 to 19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Amended) An isolated, purified or recombinant polynucleotide encoding a telomerase reverse transcriptase protein, wherein said protein:

(i) has at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ. ID NO:2; and,

(ii) has telomerase catalytic activity when associated with telomerase RNA component.

21. (Previously Amended) An isolated, purified or recombinant polynucleotide encoding a telomerase reverse transcriptase protein having the amino acid sequence of SEQ. ID NO:2.

22. (Previously Amended) An isolated, purified or recombinant polynucleotide comprising the sequence of SEQ. ID NO:1.

23. (Previously Amended) An isolated cell transfected with the polynucleotide of claim 20, or progeny thereof.

24. (Previously Amended) An isolated cell transfected with the polynucleotide of claim 21, or progeny thereof.

25. (Previously Amended) An isolated cell transfected with the polynucleotide of claim 22, or progeny thereof.

26. (Previously Added) An expression vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 20.

27. (Previously Added) An expression vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 21.

28. (Previously Added) A mouse cell in which an endogenous mTERT gene in the cell has been mutated by recombinant means, or progeny of said cell.

29 to 30. (Cancelled)

31. (Previously Amended) The polynucleotide of claim 20, encoding a protein that contains at least 10 consecutive amino acids of SEQ. ID NO:2.

32. (Currently Amended) The polynucleotide of claim 20, encoding a protein that contains the mouse Motif T shown in Figure 5 (SEQ. ID NO:2).

33. (Currently Amended) The polynucleotide of claim 20, encoding a protein that contains the mouse Motif 1 and Motif 2 shown in Figure 5 (SEQ. ID NO:2).

34. (Currently Amended) The polynucleotide of claim 20, encoding a protein that contains the mouse Motif A, Motif B, Motif C, and Motif D shown in Figure 5 (SEQ. ID NO:2).